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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God, we are in Your hands and may we rejoice above all things in being so. Do with us what seems good in Your sight.

Today show mercy to the Members of this legislative body. Let Your sovereign hand be over them and Your holy spirit ever be with them, directing their thoughts, words, and works. Lord, prosper the works of their hands, enabling them in due season to reap a bountiful harvest. Strengthen their hearts in Your ways against temptation and make them more than conquerors in Your love.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 18, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND, a Senator from the State of New York, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, following any leader remarks, the Senate will turn to a period of morning business for an hour. Senators during that time will be permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each. Republicans will control the first 30 minutes, the majority will control the final 30 minutes.

Following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 510, the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act. Yesterday cloture was invoked on the motion to proceed. Today we will continue to work with Senators on reaching an agreement to consider amendments so we may complete action on the bill this week.

We are going to complete action on the bill. We may have to—if we have to use up all of the time, waste all of the time, these 30-hour provisions that are allowed under the Senate procedures, we are going to have to be here during the weekend. This is something we need to get done.

Everyone should understand there is nothing to be gained by stalling this. It has been stalled for years, this piece of legislation.

The Senate will recess from 12:30 until 3 p.m. today because we have another Democratic caucus.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 3962, S. 3963

Mr. REID. Madam President, I am told there are two bills at the desk that are due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the titles of the bills for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3962) to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 3963) to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to these bills.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

FOOD SAFETY

Mr. REID. Madam President, we are going to continue debate, as I announced, on the food safety legislation. No one in America should have to worry if their salad or sandwich is going to kill them. No one in the Senate should prey on that fear or play with it like a political football. Yet that is exactly what is happening.

If you follow the Senate every day, you might not be surprised to see our Republican friends turn food safety into a partisan political issue. But if you are trying to keep yourself and your family healthy, you may be appalled, and rightfully so.

You might also be troubled to learn that our food safety system has not been updated in almost 100 years, in almost a century. Food processing, production, and marketing have surely advanced over the last hundred years, but

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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